

Front Range Urban Forestry Council

November 11, 2010

Introductions – David Flaig, City of Littleton

Committee Reports

Insect and Disease/EPIC – Keith Wood for Ralph Zentz, City of Fort Collins

Last EPIC meeting topics of discussion: Thousand Cankers, EAB, and a new issue with red oaks in Boulder – “Drippy Nuts” disease. Ned is culturing oozing bacteria from ends of affected red oak twigs and acorns. Kathleen Alexander has lost several large red oaks in Boulder. There is a relationship between the bacteria and Kermes scale which is still being studied, but thought is that pits caused by scale vectors bacteria into tree. Bacteria known present in Spain and California. The committee is asking everyone to look around at their red oaks, particularly larger and over-mature specimens to report any oddities. Keith has sampled some oaks in Wheat Ridge and thinks it might be in other areas besides Boulder. Also, Ralph would like communities to start looking for some log staging areas to prepare if EAB hits us.

Select Tree – Dave Flaig for Tim Buchanan, City of Fort Collins

Recommended trees list should be completed and ready for distribution by ProGreen. It is a list of tree species for the Front Range, currently in the nursery trade and classified as either General, Conditional, Unproven (less than 10 years info), or Not recommended. The goal is that this list will be dynamic, people will be able to add their comments/experience for species so it will change over time.

Hazard Tree – Bill Cassel, City & County of Denver

March 2011 FRUFC topic extended session on Tree Risk and meeting will be in Brighton. They hope to have a resistograph and shigometer at meeting. Topics to discuss include new ANSI standards, tree form, and ISA BMP's. ISA has created a new “Certificate” for Tree Risk Assessment, coming on next year. It will be a 2-3 day class, about \$600-\$700. Julian Dunster will come to Denver to provide training on PNW chapter certification, they are looking for someone to sponsor airfare and hotel (about \$400-\$700). More information to come.

Program/Membership – Keith Wood, CSFS

Thanks to Dave Flaig for hosting and everyone for showing up! Next meeting is January 20 in Golden, an extended session on tree inventory. Dave High to host.

C.T.C – Mike McGill, Town of Erie

See presentation notes below.

I.S.A – Bill Cassel for Rob Davis, City of Westminster

Pesticide workshop is next Thursday. Kelly Gouge is running Pesticide Workshop committee and needs someone to jump in and take the lead as Education Coordinator for the Education committee, any takers?

Community Reports

Sky Stephens – CSFS

Gypsy moth monitoring program produced 1 positive confirmation for European strain of Gypsy Moth in Longmont. No positive confirmations on monitoring from previous year's positives. 2010 EAB monitoring program produced NO POSITIVES! They are looking for good areas with ash tree candidates for EAB monitoring next year, so get a list together by March 2011. They want good coverage for the 100 traps state is given: ash trees in decline, high risk areas (parks, campgrounds, wood collection sites, dumps.) Need to update list as some ash trees currently on list are no longer there, areas with high trap vandalism, etc.

Bill Cassel – Denver

Just finished training with Denver Digs Trees and the Park People to train volunteers on planting, pruning, and plant ID. The first pruning field session was last week, prepping to do stop sign and regulatory sign clearance. The Mile High Million would like to share this program with other communities outside of the Denver area to recruit and train volunteers to help with community forestry efforts. Bill has a powerpoint presentation to teach tree ID for approximately 75 local species and he is willing to share. He can email the presentation to you, contact him at bill.cassel@denvergov.org.

Colorado Tree Coalition-Past, Present and Future Scott Grimes, CTC President (the past)

Community forestry groups across America historically came into being as a response to catastrophes: Chestnut Blight, Dutch Elm, etc. In the late 1970's and early 80's, a group of foresters got together to talk about common problems (Dutch Elm Disease.) Originally the Denver Metro Area Foresters Group, it grew into the Colorado Urban Forest Council in the late 1980's early 90's. With an increase in funding from the Community Forestry Assistance Act (part of the "Farm Bill" in the early 1990's) the Colorado State Forest Service took farm bill money and made it available for a state-wide council to work with communities and develop community forestry programs. The Colorado Tree Coalition (CTC) incorporated as a non-profit in 1995. Programs such as Trees Across Colorado, Notable Tree Calendar, and Notable Tree Tours provide revenue along with funding from CSFS to keep the CTC going. As federal funding dwindles, local partners become so much more important. The Arbor Day Foundation decided to stop their national poster contest and this has been a high profile event for the CTC over the years. Plans are in the works to continue this event on a statewide level. The Colorado Tree Trust was developed to provide an endowment for tight times and revolving funds (ReForest Colorado) for community reforestation after natural disasters such as tornadoes and wildfires.

Break

Colorado Tree Coalition Committees and Programs Mike McGill, CTC Vice President (the present and future)

CTC's Present

- Website (www.coloradotrees.org): content includes CTC store, feature tree, benefits of trees, links, and membership info
- Tree Talk newsletter: distributed electronically.
- Facebook page: growing fast, search for Colorado Tree Coalition and 'like'
- Awards program: CommuniTree awards for projects, groups, or individuals doing good things in community forestry.
- Scholarship program: funding to assist people with registration for conferences and workshops throughout the year, limited \$ available so maximum request is \$300.
- Eastern & Western Colorado Community Forestry Conferences: annual educational conferences on both eastern and western slopes of Colorado.
- Notable Tree Program: annual calendar with professional photographs and tree information make good gifts!
- Notable Tree Tours: completed for Fort Collins, Colorado Springs and Boulder so far. Hoping to produce more in the future, somewhere in the Denver area? Notable trees are not always the state champion, can be historical or notable for many other reasons.
- Champion Tree Program: maintains records of the largest trees in the state. Currently about 735 trees on the list, updated annually and always accepting nominations (details on website.) Colorado's National Champions include a Siberian elm in Grand Junction, Plains Cottonwood in Hygeine, Singleleaf ash in Gateway and Bristlecone pine in San Isabel NF. Currently about 50 photos of #1 trees, collecting more for additions to site, about 350 #1 trees on list.
- Bring Home the Blue
- ReForest Colorado: formerly Community Forest Disaster Fund, helps restore trees to communities devastated by natural disasters, past recipients include towns of Holly (tornado) and Ordway (Hayman fire).
- Colorado Tree Trust: endowment to secure funds for future tree plantings and other projects, always

accepting donations!

-NADF Poster Contest: discontinued, more than 1900 posters generated for 2010 contest so CTC plans to pursue state-wide poster contest for 2011.

-Champion Tree Bike Classic: 11th annual ride in 2010, "Tour de Poudre" from New Belgium Brewery in Fort Collins, fundraising efforts brought \$2100 for the Tree Fund and CTC programs.

-Hazard Trees: FRUFC/CTC Defective Tree Analysis and Prioritization CD, hazard tree workshops/training. Dealing with practice of using limited budgets to inventory, prioritize and mitigate tree risk in the urban forest.

-CTC Grants Program: funding tree planting or educational materials/programs concerning tree planting, maintenance, or management of trees in communities. New grants for 2011: Mile High Million grants, Xcel Energy Vegetation Management grant. Those who have reduced tree planting budgets, jump on these! See website for more information.

-Trees Across Colorado: provides communities the opportunity to get tree planting back into hands of community members. TAC provides shade trees to communities (urban foresters, HOA's, tree boards, Master Gardeners, community volunteers.) Doesn't have to be government, find those volunteers who want to plant trees! Finding articulate and passionate people in the community who support planting trees will help when it comes time to approve future budgets.

CTC's Future

Moving forward, the **CTC needs volunteers**. Get involved and meet people!

Attendance

Scott Grimes	South Suburban Parks & Recreation
Joe Prante	South Suburban Parks & Recreation
Ben Rickenbacker	South Suburban Parks & Recreation
Susan Hardin	South Suburban Parks & Recreation
Jennifer Hrobar	South Suburban Parks & Recreation
David Flaig	City of Littleton
Keith Wood	CSFS – Broomfield
Mike McGill	Town of Erie
Bill Cassel	City & County of Denver
Sky Stephens	Colorado State Forest Service
Gertie Grant	CTC/TAC
Neal Bamesberger	Hudson Gardens
Tom Wells	City of Broomfield
Kyle Sylvester	City of Brighton
Robert Bond	Student
Michael Till	CSFS
Andy Schlosberg	CSFS
Lynn Lathrop	City of Thornton
Ted Tompkins	City and County of Denver
Philip Hoefler	Retired CSFS
Devon Tompkins	Independent
Keith Worley	ISA Colorado Representative